

# ST. TAMMANY



# PARISH

*“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”*

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



## St. Tammany Parish

### **St. Tammany Parish Tourist and Conven- tion Commission**

68099 Highway 59  
Mandeville, LA 70471  
800-634-9443 ext. 30  
504-892-0520 ext. 30  
504-892-1441 fax

### **Regional Office of Public Health**

David Thomas  
Regional Administrator  
Southeast Regional  
Office  
21454 Koop Dr., Ste.  
1C  
Mandeville, LA 70471  
504-871-1300  
504-871-1334 fax

### **History<sup>1</sup>**

St. Tammany was established on December 22, 1810. It gets its name from a famous Delaware Indian chief, renowned for his virtue and other saintly qualities. He lived during the American Revolution and had been chosen as the patron saint of the New Republic.

The fertile banks of Lake Ponchartrain provided campsites for the Choctaws who were visited by Europeans exploring the future site of New Orleans. The rivers provided navigable routes to Lake Pontchartrain for the early settlers who

relied on water transportation to develop their new industries. These waterways brought St. Tammany's first settlement to Bayou Bonfouca in 1852.

During the antebellum years, St. Tammany's economy flourished, and New Orleanians flocked to the other side of the lake to take advantage of the fresh air and prosperous lifestyle. St. Tammany boomed as a healthful resort community with hotels, inns and restaurants. Daily boat excursions across the lake became popular, but by 1880, New Orleanians were able to travel by railroad, many traveling to sample the artesian water that had legendary healing powers for the Indians.

### **Culture and Recreation<sup>3</sup>**

St. Tammany hosts festivals that complement its natural resources and reflect the diverse interests, culture, and history of the parish residents. The wealth of artistic talent in the parish generates special events that focus on cultural enrichment and education. In addition to historic areas, filled with antiques, galleries and specialty shops, St. Tammany offers boat tours through the swamp, museums and beautiful parks. Global Wildlife Center, near Folsom, is a preserve for endangered animals from around the world. Safari tours in covered wagons guide visitors through 900 acres of freely roaming animals. The Tammany Trace, a rails-to-trails conversion, lies on the bed of the abandoned Illinois Central Railroad and extends 31 miles from Slidell, through Lacombe and Mandeville, to Abita Springs, then Covington. Two sections of the Trace are open and available for hiking, bicycling, jogging and horseback riding.



**Parish Seat<sup>1</sup>** ..... Covington<sup>1</sup>

### **Major Cities** (over 5,000 population)<sup>2</sup>

Slidell

1990 ..... 24,124

1997 (estimate) ..... 28,394



Covington	
1990 .....	7,691
1997 (estimate) .....	9,109
Mandeville	
1990 .....	7,474
1997 (estimate) .....	10,113
Lacombe CDP*	
1990 .....	6,523
1997 (estimate) .....	N/A

\* Census Designated Place

### Parish Population<sup>2</sup>

1990 .....	144,500
1997 (estimate) .....	180,692

### Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)<sup>6</sup>

White .....	87%
African American .....	12%
Other .....	1%
Male .....	49%
Female .....	51%
Population age 0-4 .....	8%
Populations age 65 & over ....	9%

### Geography and Statistics<sup>2</sup>

Average elevation .....	9 ft.
Land area in square miles .....	854.4
Water area in square miles <sup>4</sup> .....	269.7

### Climate<sup>2</sup>

Average temperatures	
Annual .....	69°
January .....	55°
July .....	82°
Annual average rainfall .....	55.8 in.

### Labor Force (1995)<sup>1</sup>

Civilian .....	78,600
Employed .....	74,300
Unemployed .....	4,300
Unemployment .....	5.4%

### Educational Attainment (1990)<sup>7</sup>

Less than 5th grade	1.7%
High school graduate or higher	76.9%
Some college or higher	48.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	23.1%

### Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees<sup>2</sup>

<b>Private Employers</b>	
Trinity Marine Group (Shipbuilding)	500
Wal-Mart (Discount Retail)	350
K-Mart (Discount Retail)	300
Standard Materials, Inc. (Concrete)	300
<b>Public Employers</b>	
St. Tammany Parish School System (Education)	3,526
Slidell Memorial Hospital (Medical)	1,100
Northshore Regional Medical Center (Medical)	682

### Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) <sup>7</sup>	11.6%
Children under age 18 in poverty <sup>7</sup>	16.3%
Per capita income (1996) <sup>8</sup>	\$23,006



## Agriculture<sup>1</sup> Forestry

### Colleges/Universities<sup>2</sup>

(within one hour commute)

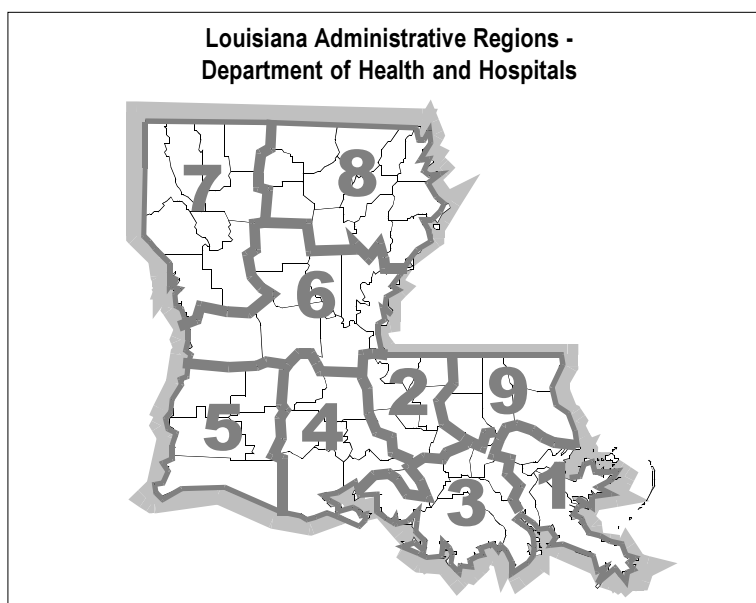
*New Orleans:* Delgado Community College; Dillard University; Louisiana State University Medical Center; Loyola University; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Notre Dame Seminary School of Theology; Our Lady of Holy Cross College; Southern University; Tulane University; University of New Orleans; Xavier University

*Hammond:* Southeastern Louisiana University

#### References

- <sup>1</sup> Louisiana Almanac. 1997. Louisiana Almanac, Pelican Press. Gretna, LA
- <sup>2</sup> Louisiana Department of Economic Development. 1999. Louisiana Overview. keyword: overview <http://ded.state.la.us>
- <sup>3</sup> Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information <http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism.htm>
- <sup>4</sup> Police Jury Association of Louisiana. <http://www.lpgov.org/>
- <sup>5</sup> State Library of Louisiana. keyword: directories <http://smt.state.lib.la.us/>
- <sup>6</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>
- <sup>8</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>

### Public Libraries<sup>5</sup> ..... 11



#### Region 1

Jefferson  
Orleans  
Plaquemines  
St. Bernard

#### Region 2

Ascension  
East Baton Rouge  
East Feliciana  
Iberville  
Pointe Coupee  
West Baton Rouge  
West Feliciana

#### Region 3

Assumption  
Lafourche  
St. Charles  
St. James  
St. John  
St. Mary

#### Region 4

Terrebonne  
Acadia  
Evangeline  
Iberia  
Lafayette  
St. Landry  
St. Martin  
Vermilion

#### Region 5

Allen  
Beauregard  
Calcasieu  
Cameron  
Jefferson Davis

#### Region 6

Avoyelles  
Catahoula  
Concordia  
Grant  
LaSalle  
Rapides  
Vernon  
Winn

#### Region 7

Bienville  
Bossier  
Caddo  
Claiborne  
DeSoto  
Natchitoches  
Red River  
Sabine  
Webster

#### Region 8

Caldwell  
East Carroll  
Franklin  
Jackson  
Lincoln  
Madison  
Morehouse  
Ouachita  
Richland  
Tensas  
Union  
West Carroll

#### Region 9

Livingston  
St. Helena  
St. Tammany  
Tangipahoa  
Washington